AND DIDN'T CALL OUT BECAUSE OF THAT?
THEN, TABI, YOU...
COULDN'T DECIDE WHETHER TO USE "SAN" OR "KUN" OR "CHAN"
Always hesitating...
Never calling out...
(Sound of hand rubbing)

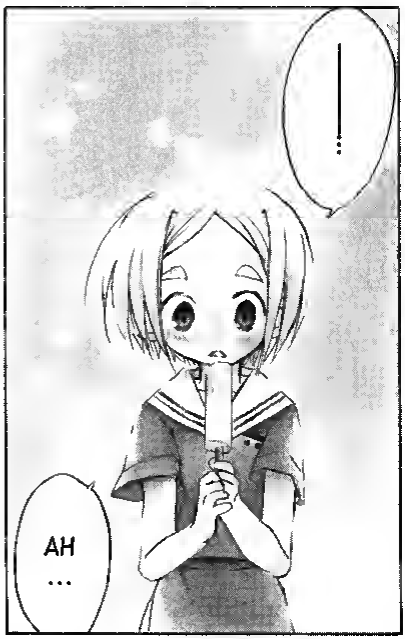
Y-YES!
SAY SOME-THING!
RES-POND!

Because I think that's a very complicated "distance"...
WE'RE FRIENDS, AFTER ALL.
...IT DOESN'T EVEN REALLY MATTER WHAT YOU CALL ME.
WE'RE... FRIENDS?

NO, THAT'S NOT IT, YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND
BUT WHAT QUALIFIES AS FRIENDS
OR WHAT QUALIFIES AS "SOME-ONE I KNOW"?
HOW DO WE BECOME "FRIENDS"?
WAH! HARSH! SAYING, "WE'RE FRIENDS?"
ARE YOU SAYING YOU DON'T THINK WE'RE FRIENDS?
UH.
ER...
AH ..
GH..
HOW CLOSE ARE YOU TO BE CONSIDERED "FRIENDS"?
BY BOR-ROWING AN ERASER?
CALLING EACH OTHER BY NAME?
ALWAYS GREETING EACH OTHER?
jingle
thanks
BAM!
clack
AUGH! WHAT A PAIN!!

HERE.
snap
IF WE SPLIT A POPSICLE, WE'RE "FRIENDS"!

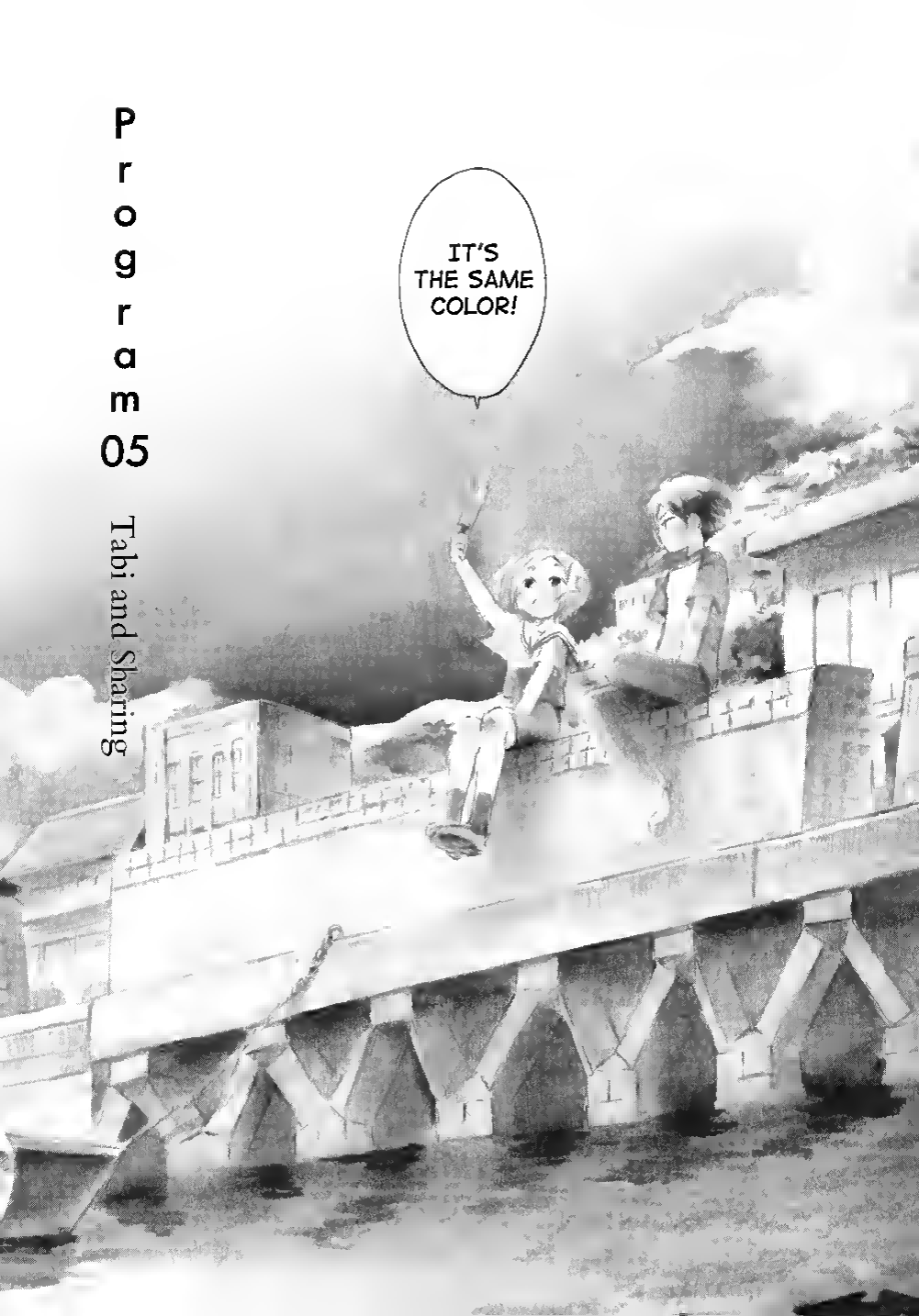
This ice cream has two flavors: chocolate and soda. Thinking about what the other person wants is part of being fr...
I MEAN, SPEAK UP!
"AH"? YOU RETARDED?
shake, shake


...
AH ...

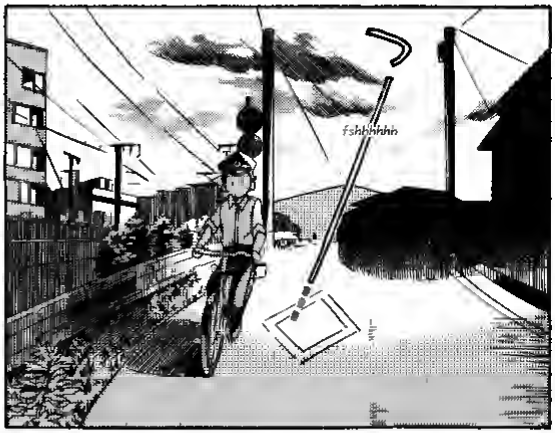
UM.
AH.
AHH

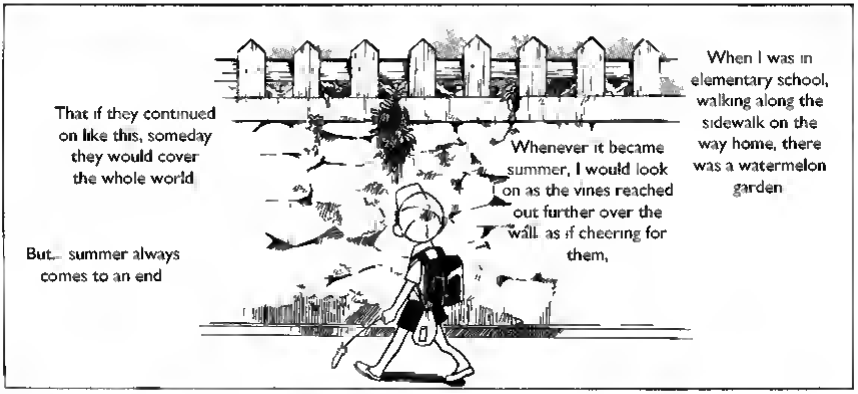
Program 05

Tabi and Sharing



kararararara

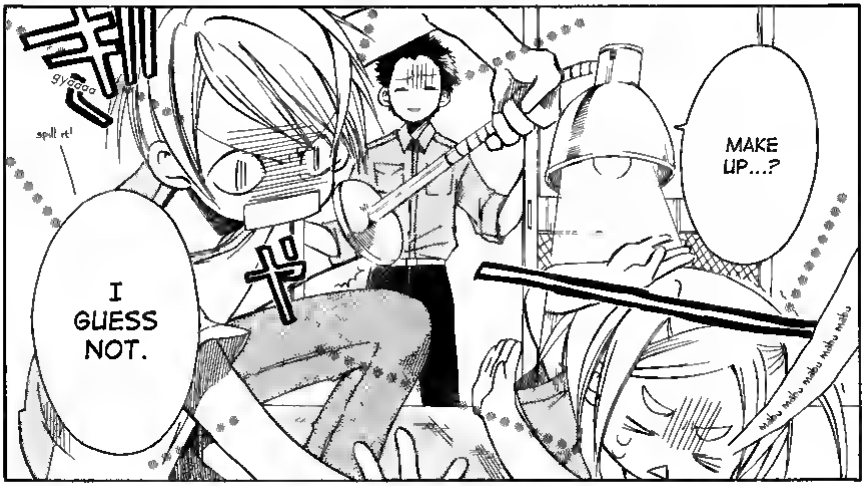

fshhhhhh

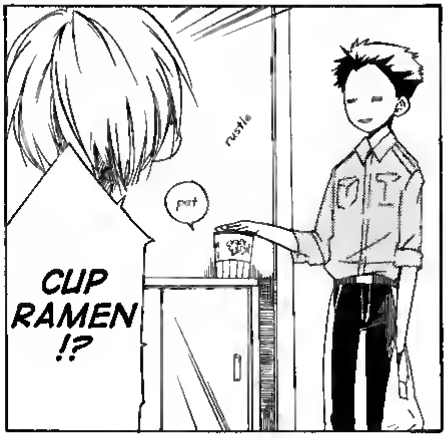

When I was in elementary school, walking along the sidewalk on the way home, there was a watermelon garden
Whenever it became summer, I would look on as the vines reached out further over the wall as if cheering for them,
That if they continued on like this, someday they would cover the whole world
But... summer always comes to an end

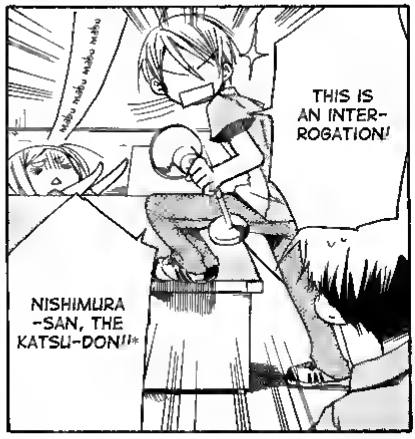
If it had been an endless summer, this town would be completely choked up in watermelon and pumpkin vines.

Even then, I'm glad
that this town's strange-ness is a "repeating summer."

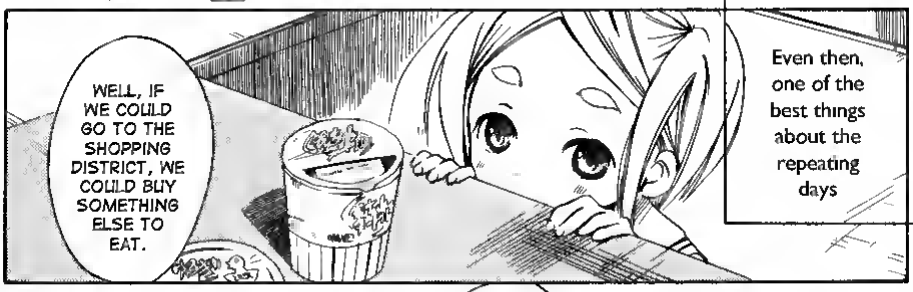
I'M HOME~!
I'm back from patrolling
HEY, YUKITA-KUN, WERE YOU AND TABI ABLE TO...
I wouldn't tell Yukita-kun this, but I was, just a little, looking on at the endless days as if cheering for them, too







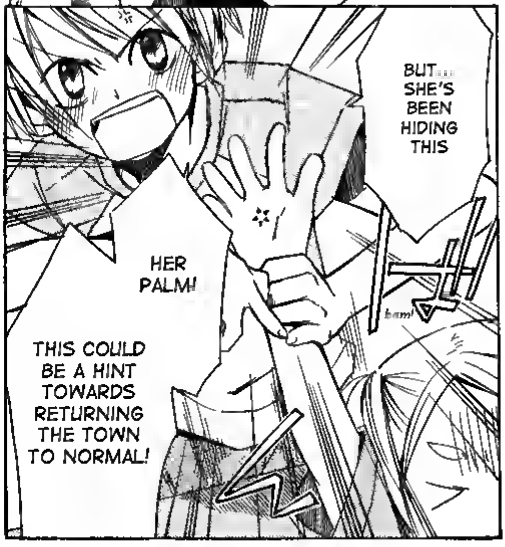
*TL note it's a cliche in dramas that the police offer suspects katsu-don to get them to confess


WELL, IF WE COULD GO TO THE SHOPPING DISTRICT, WE COULD BUY SOMETHING ELSE TO EAT.
Even then, one of the best things about the repeating days

WELL, WE'RE LUCKY THAT THE SAME DAY IS REPEATING.
BECAUSE WHEN TODAY'S OVER, THIS RAMEN AND THE FACT THAT WE ATE IT WILL BE UNDONE, SO THE STOCK IN THE STORE WILL NEVER RUN OUT
NO MATTER HOW LONG WE'RE TRAPPED IN THIS TOWN, WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FOOD SUPPLY

(*) Nagamoto
Refers to Nagamoto Store, a rural-type convenience store. A bit bigger than a candy store, but for whatever reason, they've got a lot of stuff there.
SINCE NAGAMOTO* IS THE ONLY PLACE WE CAN GO BECAUSE OF THE "ROADS", THIS IS ALL WE'VE GOT
BUT BUT BUT BUT
I want fresh food!

Contents of the bentou from chapter 3 →



HA—
more nicely
getcha
YOU KNOW, THERE ARE WAYS OF ASKING PEOPLE...
BUT REALLY, YUKITA-KUN, I DID RECOMMEND SOMETHING LIKE, "ASK AND LISTEN TO HER STORY."
WHAA?
I'm the bad guy?

I JUST DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT
I-
I WASN'T HIDING IT
oh excuse?
whisssssss
puffpuffpuffpuffpuffpuff

"ONLY THOSE CHOSEN SEKIMORI,
THOSE WHO BEAR A TEGATA, CAN PASS THE ROADS IN THIS TOWN"
...!?

I SEE.
As expected of Nishimura -san
WHOA, WAITTASEC, YUKITA-KUN DIDN'T YOU LISTEN TO HER STORY BEFORE?
SO, JUST AS THE MYSTERIOUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLER WHO CLAIMED TO BE A SEKIMORI WAS ABLE TO PASS A "ROAD",
WITH TABI'S TEGATA, SHE SHOULD ALSO BE ABLE TO PASS A ROAD SOMEWHERE IN THIS TOWN
shod nee
BUT I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HER EXPLANATION AT ALL.
ALSO, SPEAK UP AND SAY "YES" EVEN WHEN YOU'RE TALKING TO NISHIMURA -SAN!!
You nodded just now!!
but I tried!
IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE, TABI?
shake
IS THAT ALL?
I... I THINK THIS WILL DEFINITELY LET ME GO TO AN IMPORTANT PLACE.
CORRECTIONAL GUIDANCE
KURONE-KUN WANTED MY TEGATA... HE EVEN ASKED FOR MY RIGHT ARM.
GRAB

FIX THIS TOWN ...?
WOO OOOO OOO !?
IF I COULD PASS THROUGH THERE,
THEN I COULD PROBABLY
ha...
.....
TO THE MAP !!
ALRIGHT, LET'S GET PLANNING FOR TO-MORROW AND AFTER!
I WAS ABOUT TO, BUT HE WOULD GET MAD AT ME.
saying I was being selfish
HE DID GET MAD AT ME.
AH
EARLIER, YOU WERE ABOUT TO SAY
"I COULD MEET KOU-CHAN," WEREN'T YOU?

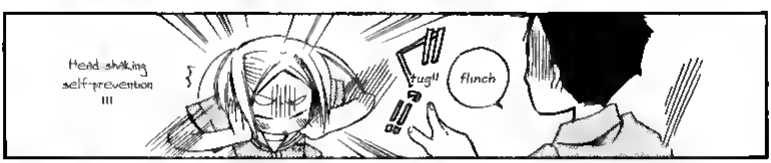
.....?
YOU WEREN'T "FRIENDS" WITH "KOU -CHAN"?

I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO GET MAD AT ME

I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO HATE ME
I SEE.
WE ARE FRIENDS.

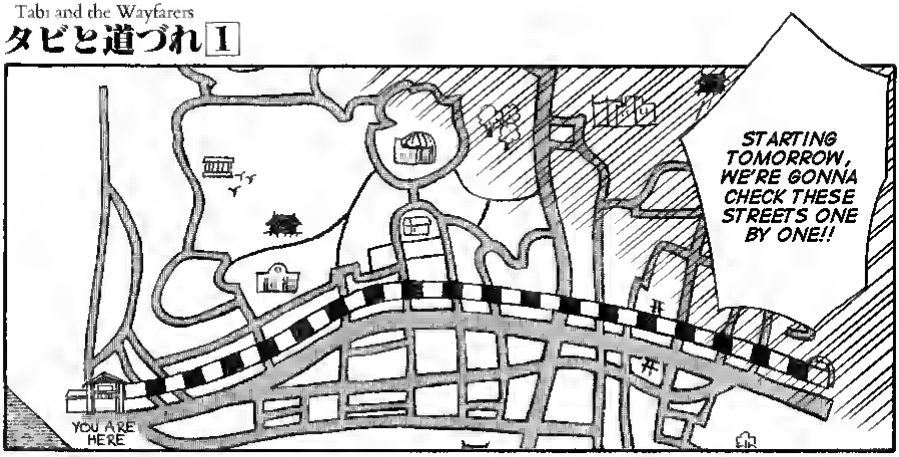
YEAH, KOU -CHAN IS
NOT A FRIEND, BUT SOME-ONE
MUCH MORE IMPOR-TANT THAN A FRIEND.

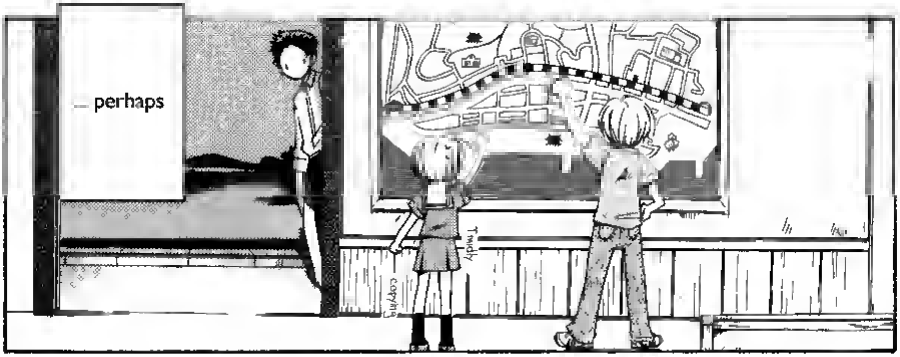
Tch, hurry up! Over here! The map's at the station!
WAIT!
BETWEEN MEETING KOU-CHAN AND RETURNING THIS TOWN TO NORMAL...
IF YOU COULD MEET KOU-CHAN FIRST,
WHAT WOULD YOU DO AFTER THAT?
flinch
grab

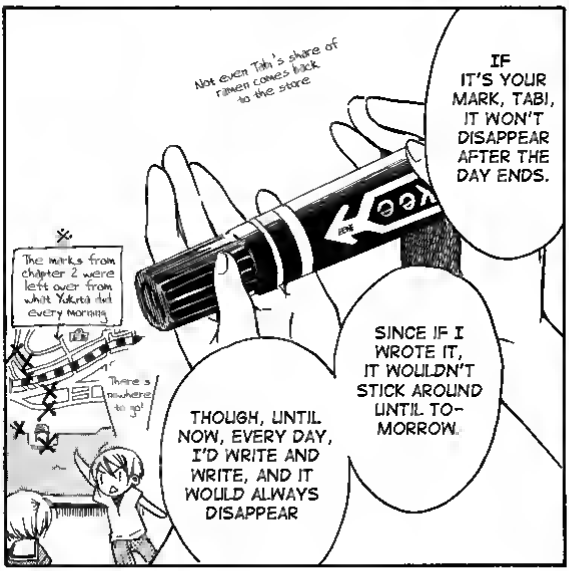

Head-shaking self-prevention !!!
flinch
tug!!

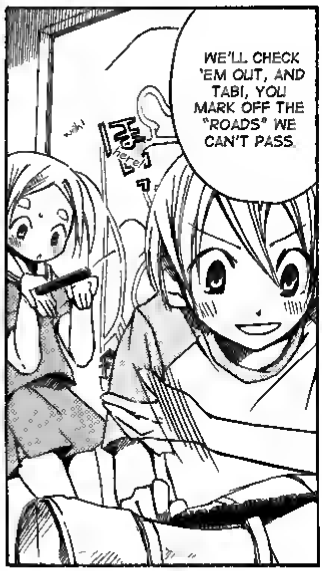
AS A FRIEND, HOW FAR SHOULD YOU GO?
The world that wouldn't change is changing

...BEFORE, I WOULD'VE BEEN FINE WITH THAT
BUT NOW, I WONDER
SINCE WE BECAME FRIENDS
I DON'T UNDER-STAND, FRIENDS

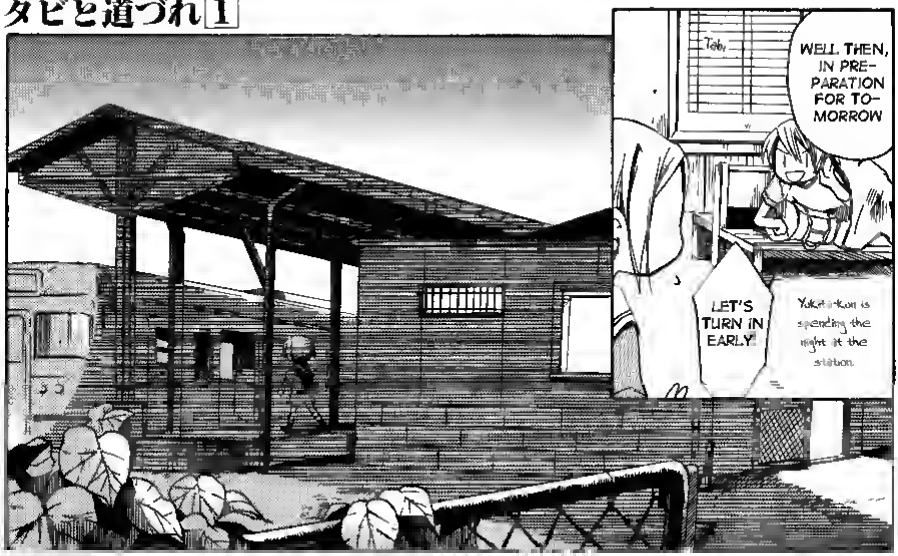

STARTING TOMORROW, WE'RE GONNA CHECK THESE STREETS ONE BY ONE!!
YOU ARE HERE

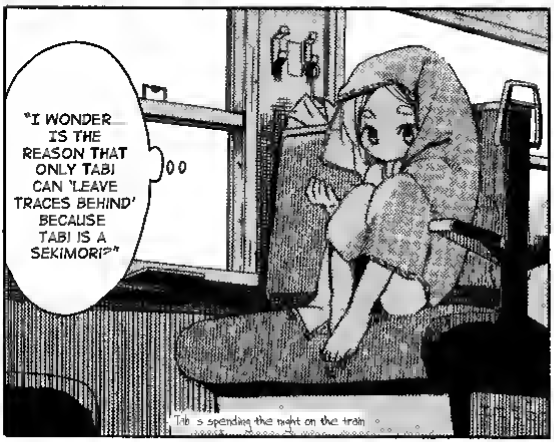

...perhaps
Tabi

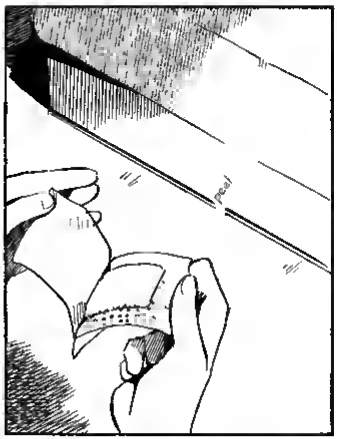

Not even Tabi's share of ramen comes back to the store
IF IT'S YOUR MARK, TABI, IT WON'T DISAPPEAR AFTER THE DAY ENDS.
SINCE IF I WROTE IT, IT WOULDN'T STICK AROUND UNTIL TOMORROW.
THOUGH, UNTIL NOW, EVERY DAY, I'D WRITE AND WRITE, AND IT WOULD ALWAYS DISAPPEAR
The marks from chapter 2 were left over from what Yukata did every morning.
There's nowhere to go!


WE'LL CHECK 'EM OUT, AND TABI, YOU MARK OFF THE "ROADS" WE CAN'T PASS.

I WONDER...
I WONDER... IS THE REASON THAT ONLY TABI CAN "LEAVE TRACES BEHIND" BECAUSE YOU'RE A SEKIMORI?
Checking the roads to Kou-chan.
squeak
OH, BY THE WAY, HERE.
TODAY WAS KIND OF A DISASTER, BUT
It's a hand-out
IF YOU'RE GONNA GET CHASED WHEN PEOPLE SEE YOUR TEGATA, THEN HIDE IT.
I'M GLAD YOU FOUND SOMETHING TO HOPE FOR.
...TH...

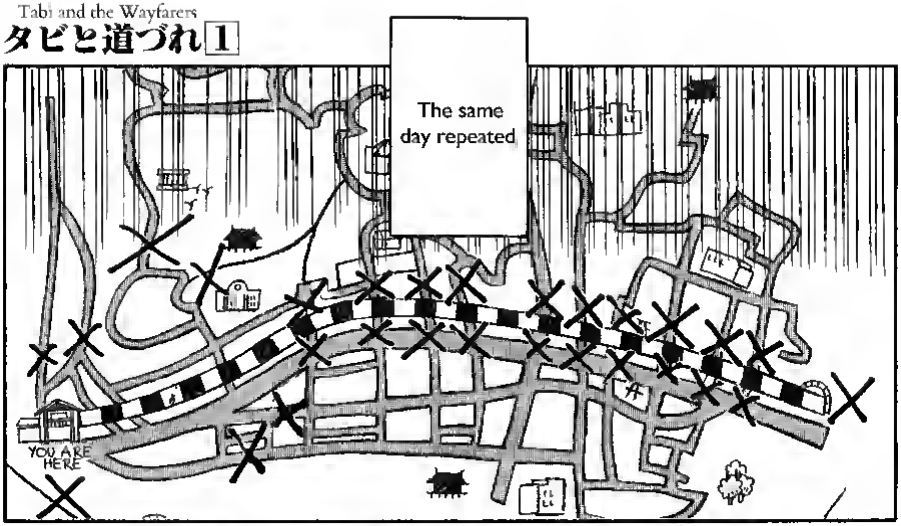

Tabi
WELL THEN, IN PREPARATION FOR TOMORROW
LET'S TURN IN EARLY!
Yukei-kun is spending the night at the station.


"I WONDER IS THE REASON THAT ONLY TABI CAN 'LEAVE TRACES BEHIND' BECAUSE TABI IS A SEKIMORI?"
Tabi is spending the night on the train.


yeah

TH.
inhale
THEN CAN THINGS CHANGE?
If only I can "leave traces behind" tomorrow... and if it doesn't repeat

Will I be able to say it tomorrow?
"THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU."
rrrattlerrrr
WOR-NING!!!
Even then...
ulp!

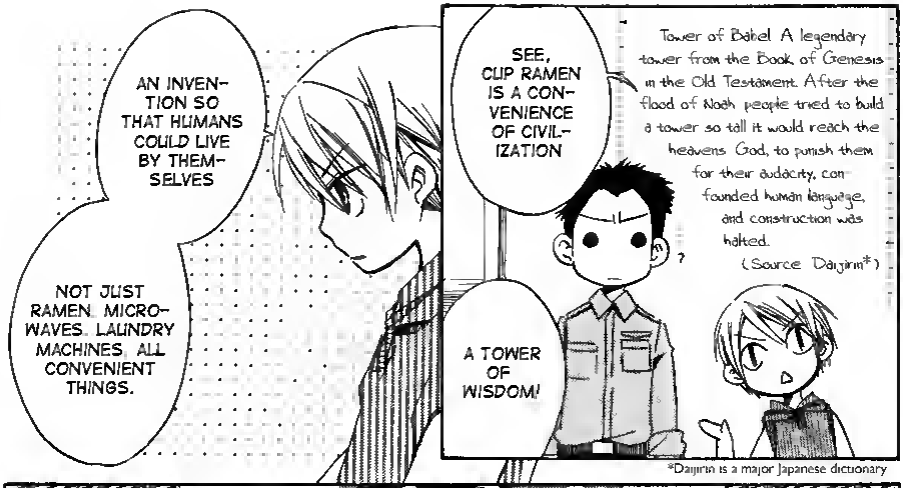

The same day repeated
YOU ARE HERE

TOTAL DEFEAT ...

myehhh
I'VE BEEN THINKING, YUKITA-KUN.

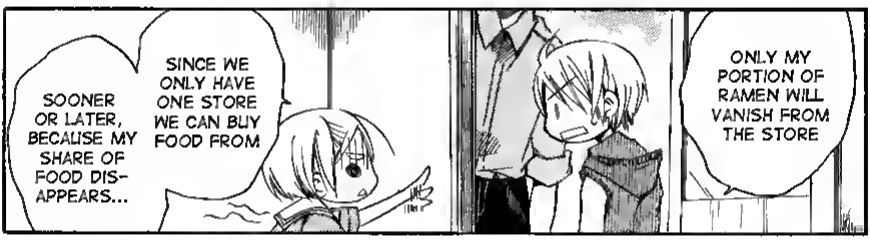
ERK!!
WHAT THE HELL!?

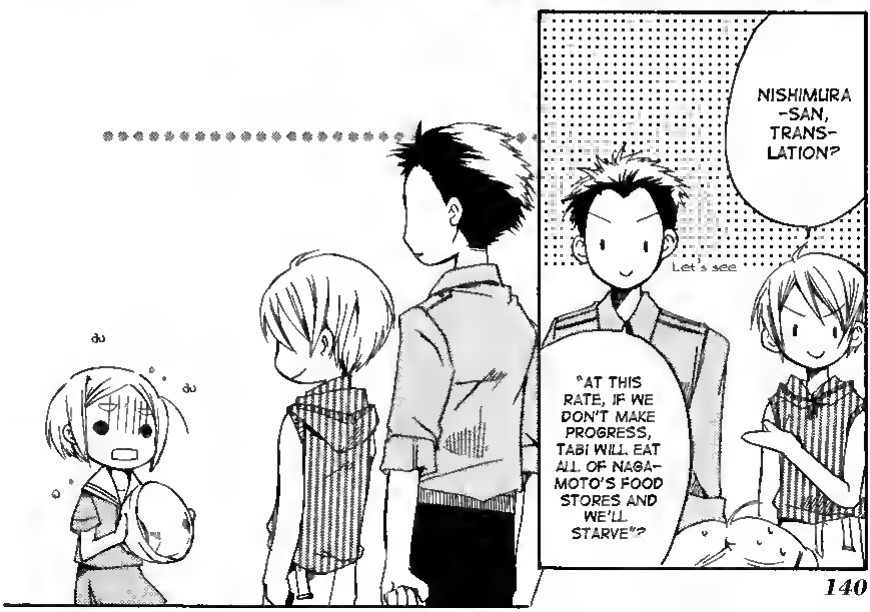
AFTER INVESTIGATING, THE STREETS WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO PASS
WERE NEAR THE TRAIN TRACKS AND THE STATION, RIGHT?
WHAT IF THE "ROAD" TABI CAN PASS
CAN ONLY BE REACHED BY CROSSING AN UNPASSABLE "ROAD", LIKE OVER HERE...?
HEY, NISHIMURA-SAN
OVERE THERE, WHAT DO YOU SEE?
I CAN SEE IT.
ズズーーーン...
A TOWER OF BABEL.
HUH? WELL, IT'S BOWLS FROM THE RAMEN TABI ATE.
OH, YOU MEAN LIKE, "YOU CAN TELL HOW MANY DAYS IT'S BEEN FROM THE AMOUNT OF TRASH?"
I guess we should really throw them away

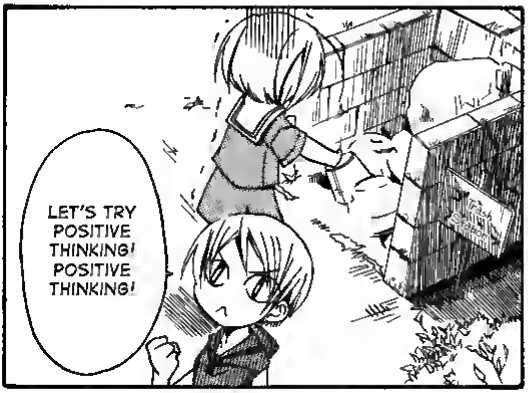

AN INVENTION SO THAT HUMANS COULD LIVE BY THEMSELVES
NOT JUST RAMEN. MICROWAVES. LAUNDRY MACHINES. ALL CONVENIENT THINGS.
SEE, CUP RAMEN IS A CONVENIENCE OF CIVILIZATION
A TOWER OF WISDOM!
Tower of Babel A legendary tower from the Book of Genesis in the Old Testament. After the flood of Noah people tried to build a tower so tall it would reach the heavens. God, to punish them for their audacity, confounded human language, and construction was halted. (Source: Daijirin*)
?

*Daijirin is a major Japanese dictionary

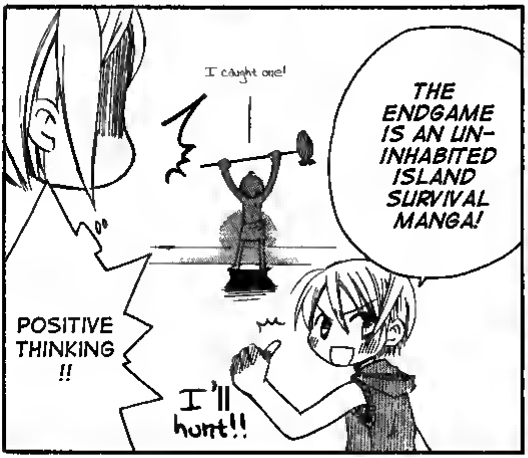
I... I JUST REALIZED SOMETHING TERRIBLE.. AWAWA
IF I... IF ONLY I LEAVE TRACES BEHIND
WAH !!
!?
HUH!?


SOONER OR LATER, BECAUSE MY SHARE OF FOOD DIS-APPEARS...
SINCE WE ONLY HAVE ONE STORE WE CAN BUY FOOD FROM
ONLY MY PORTION OF RAMEN WILL VANISH FROM THE STORE


NISHIMURA -SAN, TRANS-LATION?
Let's see
"AT THIS RATE, IF WE DON'T MAKE PROGRESS, TABI WILL EAT ALL OF NAGA-MOTO'S FOOD STORES AND WE'LL STARVE"?


LET'S TRY POSITIVE THINKING! POSITIVE THINKING!

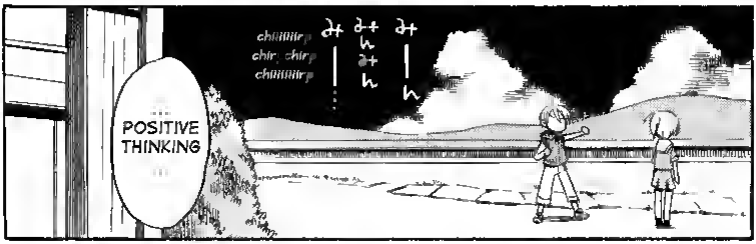
Tabi is inadvertently a time limit?!
clatter


I caught one!
THE ENDGAME IS AN UNINHABITED ISLAND SURVIVAL MANGA!
POSITIVE THINKING !!
I'll hunt!!

IF THERE'S A SEKIMORI FOR EVERY UNPASSSABLE ROAD, THEN THERE ARE AT LEAST AS MANY SEKIMORI AS THE ROADS WE COULDN'T PASS BEFORE NOW, RIGHT?
DON'T GET SO WORRIED. IT'S JUST A JOKE.
SO THEN, NEXT UP, WE START SEARCHING FOR SEKIMORI!!
Positive thinking

WHAT, SHIVERING AGAIN? I DON'T GET YOU.
SEARCH ...?
WE'LL FIND THE SEKIMORI
AND WE'LL HAVE THEM DO SOMETHING SO WE CAN CROSS THE ROADS
Like carrying us on their backs—
ガ ガ ガ

"Can I have it?"
AH
SE-

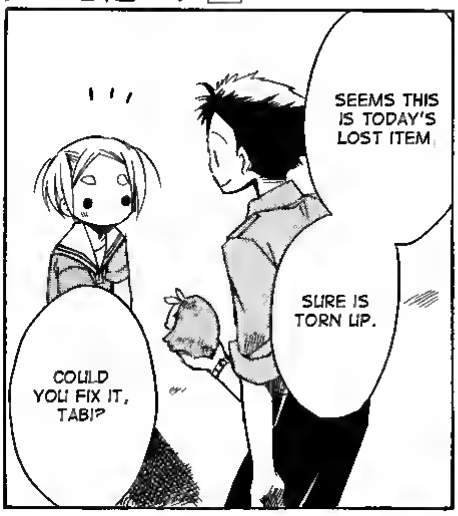

chiiiiiirp
chirp chirp
chiiiiiirp
...
POSITIVE THINKING

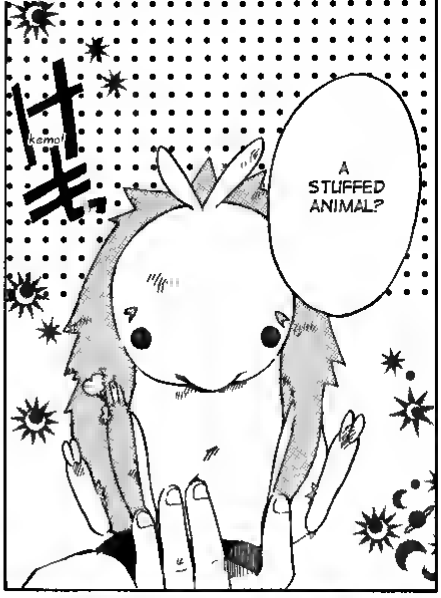
OH YEAH, WHAT ABOUT NISHIMURA-SAN?
I JUST NOTICED, BUT
WHY DOESN'T HE SEARCH WITH US?

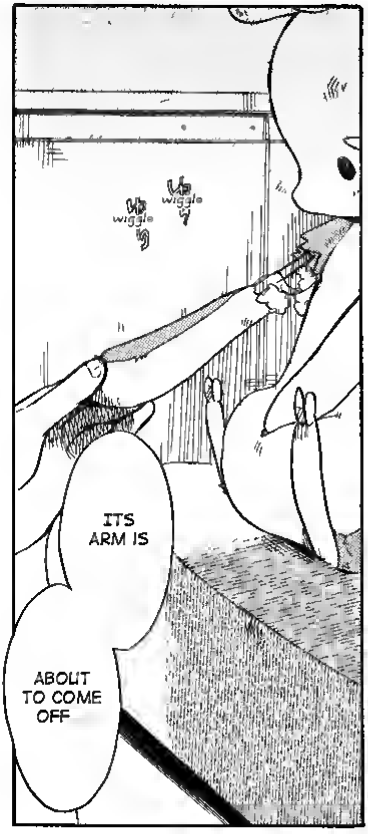
OF COURSE WE'VE GOT INFINITE DAYS AHEAD OF US
DON'T GET ALL DEPRESSED ABOUT THAT INFINITY
I'VE HAD TO DO THIS ALL BY MYSELF BEFORE NOW

SEE?
HE'S ON PATROL RIGHT OVER THERE
Even though he can't go for
NISHI-MURA-SAN'S LIFESTYLE IS UNCHANGED SINCE BEFORE THE STRANGE-NESS
Eh?
OH YEAH, RIGHT ABOUT THIS TIME
"Precisely because of this abnormal situation where the same day repeats"
NISHIMURA -SAN SAID THAT
IT'S NOT THAT HE'S BEING UNCOOP-ERATIVE
Feels like he's being uncooperative
IT'S FINE
IS THAT OK?
"I'm some-one who protects, after all"
THAT'S NISHIMURA -SAN FOR YOU.
SO, FROM HERE ON, I'M GOING TO PATROL THE SAME PLACES AT THE SAME TIME
IT COULD BE A HINT AT HOW TO RESOLVE THIS
IF I DIS-COVER ANY-THING EVEN A LITTLE DIFFERENT IN THE DAY

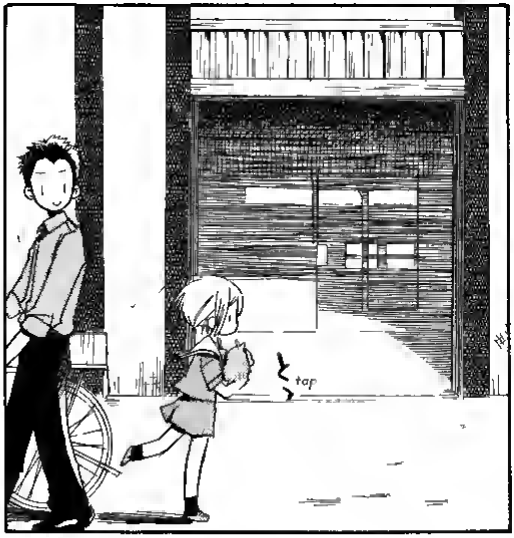
kararararara
amidst the same, repeating day...?
Something even slightly different
fshhhhhh
For example?
TABI-KUN
I SEE, SO YUKITA-KUN TOLD YOU THAT. BUT MY INVESTIGATION ISN'T TURNING ANYTHING UP.
SOMEHOW, EVEN THOUGH THE SAME DAY REPEATS, IT SEEMS THAT THE DAYS CONTAIN A LOT OF SUBTLE VARIATIONS. SO FAR, I'VE FOUND TONS OF DIFFERENCES LIKE THAT.
LIKE, TODAY, AT YAMADA-SAN'S HOUSE, LUNCH CHANGED FROM BREAD TO RICE.
AND THE LOST ITEMS I PICK UP ARE DIFFERENT FROM DAY TO DAY.
hyo


SEEMS THIS IS TODAY'S LOST ITEM
SURE IS TORN UP.
COULD YOU FIX IT, TABI?


kamo!
A STUFFED ANIMAL?


wiggle
wiggle
ITS ARM IS
ABOUT TO COME OFF

mod
SEWING INSTRUMENTS
IN MY BAG ON THE TRAIN...
little ones


tap

CAN I HAVE THAT RIGHT ARM?
IN ORDER TO MEET KOU-CHAN
COULD I CHOOSE
TO TAKE AWAY SOME-ONE ELSE'S ARM?
FLOP
Would I choose to?

Mizunashi

A small, ALL for FUN, translation group.

Comments

Quite a cliffhanger ending, this time..eh? Maybe that'll encourage us to get a new release out after less than a year or something. Lots of thanks to Fastforward...without whom this chapter's translation would be much worse. As always, if you've got comments, mizunashi@mduo13.com

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